

Minutes of the State Board of Health
February 9, 2000

A meeting of the Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) was held at the Ramada Inn Governor House, Olympia. The public meeting of the Board was called to order by Dennis Braddock, Chair, at 9:05am and addressed the attendees with the following statement:

“This is a public meeting of the State Board of Health held under provision of RCW 43.20. Notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with provisions of RCW 34.05, the Administrative Procedures Act. Those members having any conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board will report that conflict with respect to the particular subject under consideration. In case of challenge of any Board members by the public, the Board shall decide the status of the challenged members to participate before considering the substance of the matter.”

The following Board members were present:

Dennis Braddock, Chair	The Honorable Neva J. Corkrum, Vice Chair
Thomas H. Locke, MD, MPH.	Carl S. Osaki, RS, MPH
The Honorable Margaret Pageler, JD	Mary Selecky, Secretary, Department of Health
Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH.	Charles R. Chu, DPM
Joe Finkbonner	Ed Gray, MD

State Board of Health Staff present:

Don Sloma, Executive Director	Heather Boe, Executive Assistant
Doreen Garcia, Senior Health Policy Advisor	Hal Dygert, Senior AAG Advisor
Allen Spaulding, Administrative Assistant	Janice M. Englehart, MPH, MSW

Guests and Other Participants:

Richard M. Ludwig, Pres., Small Well Owners Association
 Jim Stormwell, Small Well Owners Association
 Beth Berendt
 Meg Grimaldi, Executive Secretary, Executive Ethics Board
 John Ridgeway, Department of Ecology
 Roger A. Lenion, R & R Plants
 Ted Cowan, Washington Property Rights Alliance
 Jim Stormo, Secretary/Treasurer, SWO Association
 Marcia Riggers, Director, Education Support, OSPI
 Al Hawkins, SWO Association
 Judy Maire, Health Services Support, OSPI
 Joel Hastings, Director Government. Affairs, NW AID's Foundation
 Richard Jackman, Member, Resist the List
 Eric Slagle, Special Assistant to the Secretary, DOH
 Nancy Ellison, Deputy, DOH
 Patty Hayes, Director, Legislative & Constituent Relations, DOH
 Michelle Davis, Legislative & Constituent Relations, DOH
 Renee Guillerie, Communications, DOH
 Gary Schricker, Chief, Technology & Information Officer, DOH
 Maxine Hayes, Assistant Secretary's Office, DOH
 Oscar Cerda, Minority Affairs, DOH

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- ***Motion: To approve the February 9, 2000 agenda as submitted.***
Motion/Second: Locke/Osaki - passed with one abstention.

ADOPTION OF JANUARY 12, 2000 MEETING MINUTES

- *Motion: To approve the January 12, 2000 minutes as submitted.*
Motion/Second: Locke/Ybarra - passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don Sloma, Executive Director, informed the Board of an upcoming training entitled "Local Board of Health Leadership Workshop" to be held May 4-5, 2000. Mr. Sloma provided the draft agenda and encouraged all available members to participate in the training. Mr. Sloma reported to the Board on the direction he had received from Dennis Braddock, Chair, that staff seek clear direction from the Board regarding any legislation affecting the Board's interests and that staff monitor items/issues relating to the Board's priority issues. Mr. Sloma informed the Board that such legislation would be monitored and reported upon through the Board's web page.

UPDATE ON LEGAL ISSUES

Hal Dygert, Senior AAG Advisor, reported on upcoming dates for the filing of legal briefs and/or the Department of Health's response regarding the "Resist the List" suit. Mr. Dygert will keep the Board informed of any future developments concerning the suit.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) UPDATE AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mary Selecky, Secretary, Department of Health, provided an update on Temporary Worker Housing issues including the results of water testing/inspections conducted on past license holders. After testing over 150 water systems, the Department of Health was pleased with the overall quality of water provided at local sites for housing temporary workers. Ms. Selecky commented that after the rules hearings defining how business will be conducted between the Department of Labor and Industries and the Department of Health, the challenge will be put forth to the licensed Cherry Growers in Washington State.

Ms. Selecky introduced and welcomed Nancy Ellison, Deputy, Department of Health and Gary Schricker, Chief Technology and Information Officer to the WSBOH as the newly appointed members of the Department of Health Executive Team.

Patty Hayes, Director of Policy, Legislative, and Constituent Relations reported that Department of Health has currently conducted over 500 bill analyses this Legislative session. Additionally, the Department has identified several concerns/impacts with license fee programs as a result of Initiative 695 (I-695). Specifically, licensing programs unable to keep up with the cost of disciplinary actions, such as the Midwifery licensing program, may face the possibility of de-regulation. The Department is considering conducting an interim study of license fee programs impacted by I-695. In an effort to protect the level of public safety, Ms. Selecky has worked with Governor Locke to establish a special one-time appropriation of \$73,000.00 for license fee programs in need of funding.

Other issues/updates discussed included Patient Bill of Rights, Senate Bill (SB) 5848, Public Health Facilities, SB 6553, Fluoridation of Water, SB 6665, Needlesticks and Sharps, House Bill (HB) 2669 and Tobacco Settlement funds. The Board discussed whether fluoridation of water would be considered an unfunded mandate. They also discussed timing of spending the Tobacco Settlement funds. Finally, they discussed the expected funding problem for the Center of Health Statistics due to I-695.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STRATEGIC PLANNING

Ms. Selecky, Secretary, and Eric Slagle, Special Assistant to the Secretary, provided an update regarding Department of Health's Strategic Planning progress. The discussion focused on the goals established for a "balanced scorecard and performance measures and targets." Mr. Slagle outlined the process put in place to initiate strategic initiatives. Mr. Braddock asked Ms. Selecky to identify the intersections between the Board and the Department's strategic initiatives as well as encouraging the Board to look at other agencies such as OSPI for future interactions and exchanges.

BOARD PRIORITY HEALTH ISSUE – CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH, Charles R. Chu, DPM, and the Honorable Margaret Pageler JD, all Board members and Doreen Garcia, made a presentation regarding their findings and recommendations for work defining the Board's priority health issue on Children's Health and Well Being. After some discussion a motion was made to adopt the recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee:

Recommendation 1: Clinical Preventive Services

The Board's Subcommittee on Children's Health and Well Being will examine mechanisms to promote delivery of specified clinical preventive services that all children 0 to 9 years of age will receive. The Subcommittee will analyze the benefits, costs, and political viability of these mechanisms and recommend those that the Board or others should pursue. They will also make the analyses available to others.

Recommendation 2: Family Policy Council

The Board's Subcommittee on Children's Health and Well Being will work with the Family Policy Council to determine ways to maximize the use of resources to help families with young children thrive.

Recommendation 3: OSPI Collaboration

The Board's Subcommittee on Children's Health and Well Being will determine the health-related issues of mutual interest between the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the Board. The Subcommittee will involve the Department of Health and other state agencies where appropriate. The Subcommittee will consider recommending a Memorandum of Understanding for Board and OSPI approval.

Recommendation 4: Childcare and Early Learning

To promote children's health and well being, the Board's Subcommittee on Children's Health and Well Being will track and provide input to statewide initiatives focused on childcare and early learning, including the Department of Health's WAC revision on Childcare Certification.

- *Motion: To approve the recommendations, as submitted, by the Children's Health Subcommittee.*
Motion/Second: Locke/Corkrum - the motion passed unanimously.

BOARD PRIORITY HEALTH ISSUE – ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Carl S. Osaki, RS, MSPH, and Joe Finkbonner, Board members, made a presentation regarding their findings and recommendations for work on the Board's priority health issue on Environmental Justice. After some discussion a motion was made to adopt the recommendations proposed by the Environmental Justice Subcommittee:

Recommendation 1: Raise Consciousness and Set Guidelines

The State Board of Health will appoint an Environmental Justice (EJ) committee to convene a one-day EJ conference and develop EJ guidelines. The Board will assign a 0.25 FTE for 9 months to organize and/or facilitate the creation of the committee to include, but not be limited to, agency personnel, legislators, industry representatives, Board members, community leaders, and educators. This committee will create a set of environmental justice guidelines by October 2000. Once the guidelines are agreed upon, the Board will then recommend the governor incorporate the findings into an executive order. The committee and Board will convene a state-wide EJ conference to raise consciousness concerning EJ issues.

Recommendation 2: Create a Clearinghouse for EJ Information

By July 2000 the State Board of Health will add a topic area to its web site relating to environmental justice. The web site will serve as a clearinghouse for Washington State Environmental Justice, related information, groups, contacts, studies, public hearings, and chat rooms.

Recommendation 3: Incorporating EJ Principles

The State Board of Health will advise DOH and local health departments to incorporate EJ principles into their activities and to provide information through their public information channels (including posters, brochures, and newsletters) to communicate environmental justice principles and concerns simply and in different languages.

- *Motion: To approve the recommendations, as submitted, by the Environmental Justice Sub-Committee.*
Motion/Second: Locke/Corkrum - the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Braddock encouraged Board staff to develop a letter of cooperation between the Board, DOH, and the Department of Ecology regarding the adopted recommendations.

Mr. Sloma, Executive Director, introduced Janice M. Englehart, MPH, MSW, as the newest addition to the Board staff, specializing in environmental health issues, and distributed her resume to Board members. Ms. Englehart outlined her prior experience and expressed her enthusiasm in staffing the Board on Environmental Justice issues.

BOARD PRIORITY HEALTH ISSUE – PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

Tom Locke, MD, and Ed Gray, MD, Board members and Joan Brewster, DOH, made a presentation regarding their findings and/or work defining the Board's priority health issue on Public Health System Improvement.

The Board discussed the development of standards and how they will relate to the flow of funds. Ms. Brewster clarified that the standards are mutual expectations between the DOH and LHJ's. Mr. Braddock expressed concern that the standards could end up being the lowest common denominator. He wants the standards to be strong. Ms. Selecky and Ms. Corkrum discussed the difference between DOH's use of performance-based contracting and the Board's authority to enforce statute. Mr. Sloma stated that all the recommendations on the PHIP and other priority issues are based on the Board's budget for the remainder of this biennium. After some discussion a motion was made to adopt the recommendations proposed by the Public Health System Improvement Subcommittee:

Recommendation 1: Communications Committee

The State Board of Health will support this work through participation in the Communications Committee and by reviewing the results of the committee's work. The Board will seek to use its public meetings, annual/biennial reports, resolutions, and other available opportunities to contribute to a coordinated communication strategy in partnership with the DOH, Local Health Jurisdictions, the University of Washington, and Washington State University.

Recommendation 2: Public Forums

During 2000, the Board will provide opportunity for public discussion of matters that affect the delivery of public health services in Washington. The forums will focus on public health and medical system concerns in these communities that are within the purview of the Board of Health and Department of Health and may include topics addressed in the PHIP such as access, core indicators, technology, workforce development, funding or public health standards.

The forums are consistent with the Board's statutory role in development of health policy, obtaining citizen and professional involvement and holding hearings to explore the health status of the citizenry. (RCW 43.20.050)

Recommendation 3: Key Health Indicators

Representatives of the Board and staff will consult with the PHIP Key Health Indicators Committee as that group identifies a list of key health indicators. The Board will consider these indicators for endorsement by January 2001. If endorsed, these indicators will be used as measures of the priority health issues identified in the State Health Report (or a combined report that merges the PHIP, Health of Washington and State Health Reports).

Recommendation 4: Access to Critical Health Services

By January 2001, the Board's PHIP Subcommittee, Board staff and consultants will complete a study of the degree to which Washington residents have access to critical health services as based on the Proposed Public Health Standards for access to health care.

- *Motion: To approve the recommendations, as submitted, by the Public Health System Improvement Sub-Committee.*
Motion/Second: Finkbonner/Corkrum - the motion passed unanimously.

IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT LAWSUIT IN REGARD TO SURFACE WATER BORNE PATHOGENS

Ed Gray, MD, discussed a press release regarding surface water pollution at Kelso Lake, 20 miles north of Coeur d' Alene. In August 1999, a woman suffered from a streptococcal infection as a result of a fishing hook puncture at Kelso Lake. Mr. Osaki commented on the lack of standards in place for recreational waters. The Board may look into public health concerns regarding standards of recreational waters.

OPEN PERIOD TO TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON ANY HEALTH ISSUES

Richard Ludwig, President of the Private Wells Assoc. and Jim Stormell from King county provided testimony regarding the regulation of Class "B" well systems in Washington State (see attached letter).

John Ridgeway, Department of Ecology (DOE), and author of the report used by the Board to identify environmental justice issues, expressed his interest and enthusiasm in a working partnership between DOE and the Board to further define environmental justice issues.

EXECUTIVE ETHICS BOARD PRESENTATION

Meg Grimaldi, Executive Secretary, Executive Ethics Board, provided an overview of the Washington State Ethics Policy.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Dennis Braddock, Chair